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THE Wheat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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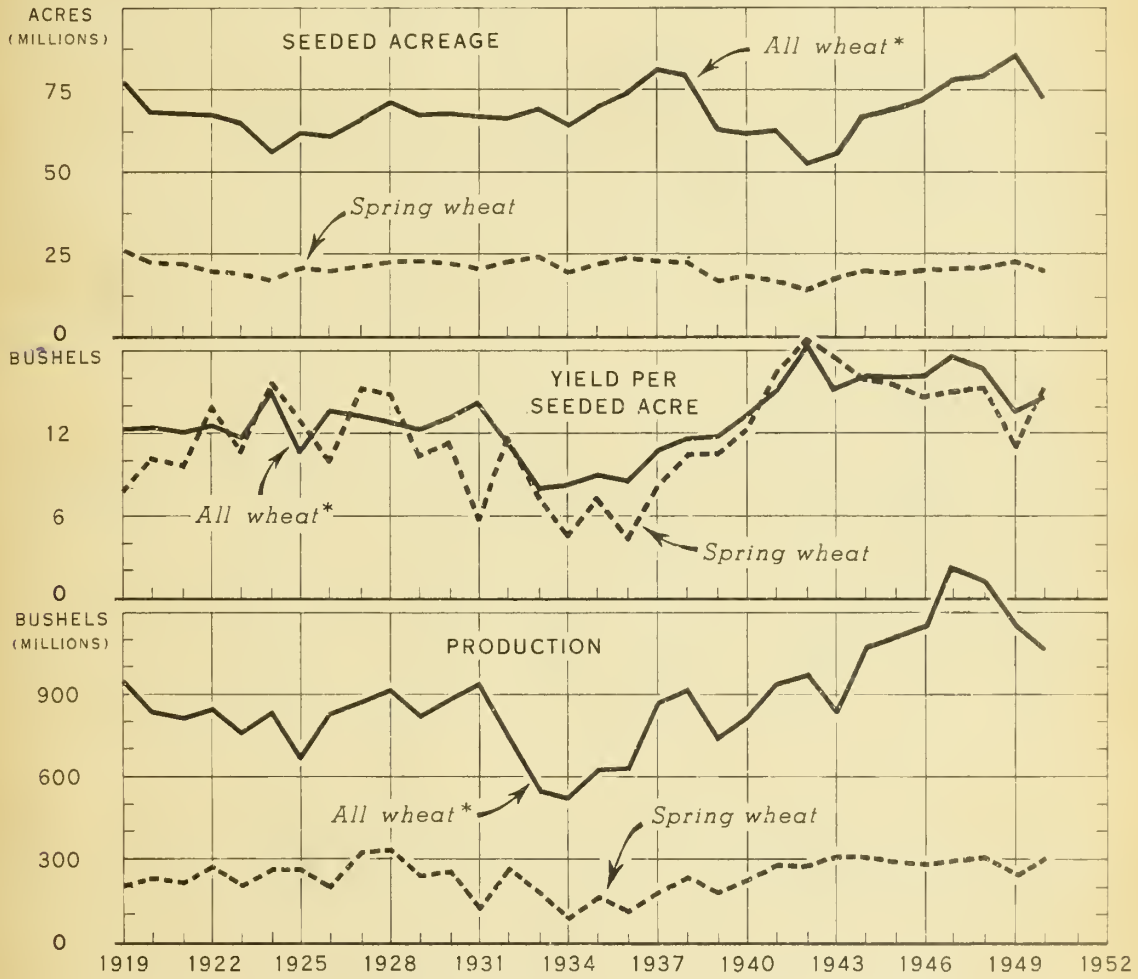
ALL WHEAT AND ALL SPRING WHEAT: ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES, 1919-50



*INCLUDES WINTER WHEAT SEEDED PREVIOUS FALL DATA FOR 1950 ARE PRELIMINARY

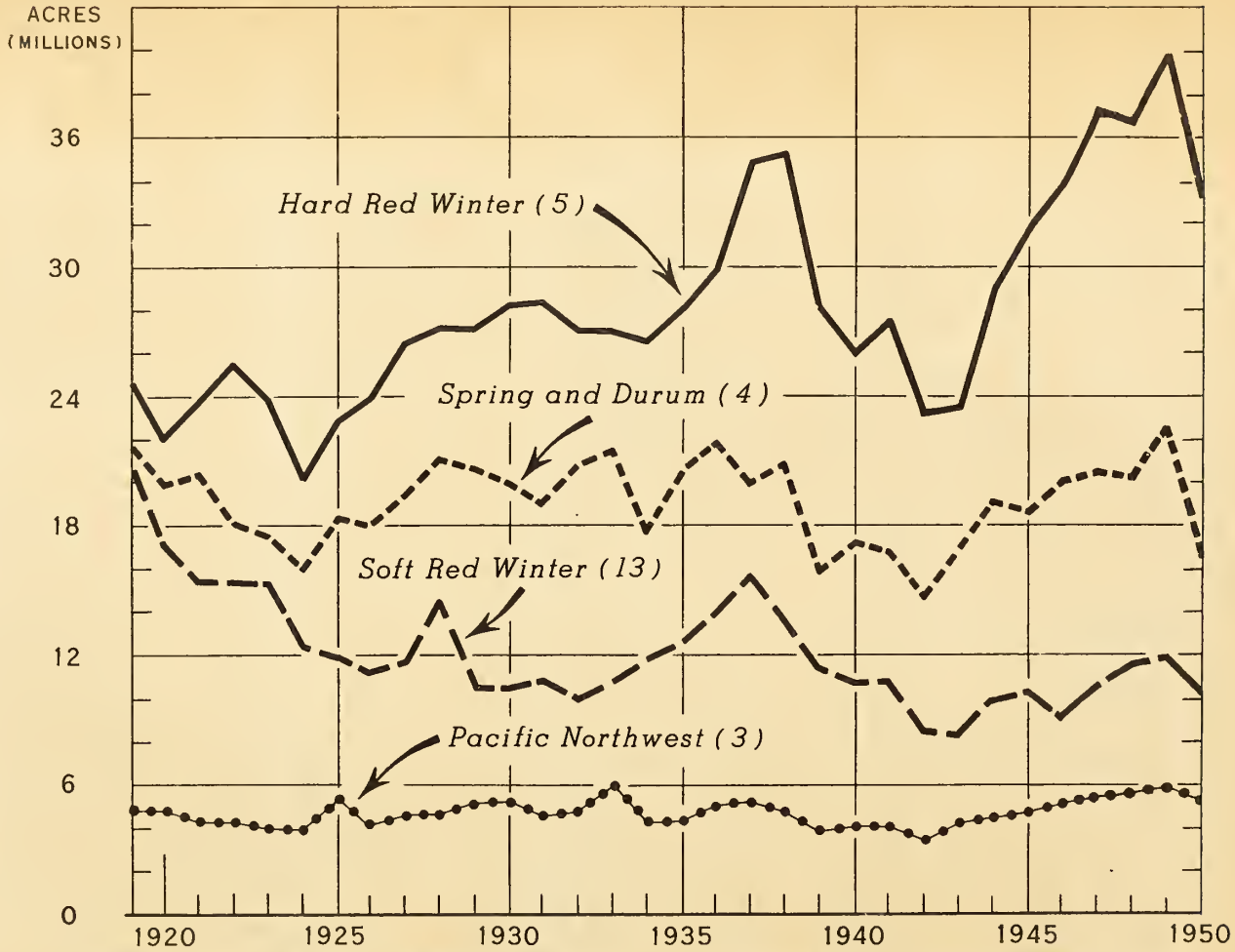
U. S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45899 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

A total of 72.75 million acres of all wheat is reported seeded or to be seeded for 1950. This is 14 percent below the 84.93 million acres seeded for the 1949 crop and a little below the national wheat allotment total but 10 percent above the 1939-48 average of 66.03 million acres.

On March 1, growers reported that they planned to seed 19.73 million acres of all spring wheat. This is 12.6 percent below the 22.56 million acres planted in 1949 but 9 percent larger than the 1939-48 average of 18.07 million acres. (The decrease in winter wheat acreage reported in December was 15 percent.)

Yields in 1941-48 were high not only as a result of favorable growing conditions but also because of improved production practices, and the use of high yielding varieties. Growing conditions in 1949 were below average and yields the smallest in 9 years.

WHEAT: ACREAGE SEEDED, BY REGIONS, UNITED STATES, 1919-50



NUMBER OF STATES INCLUDED SHOWN IN PARENTHESES *DATA FOR 1949 AND 1950 ARE PRELIMINARY*

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Wheat acreage decreases are general for the 1950 crop. Based on preliminary figures, in the spring wheat area the decrease amounts to 27 percent, in the soft red winter and hard red winter areas, it is down 15 and 14 percent, respectively, and in the Pacific Northwest it is down 12 percent.

Compared with the fairly stable 1929-33 period, the 1950 acreage in the hard winter area is 20 percent higher, while that in the spring wheat states is down 19 percent. The The acreage in the Pacific Northwest was 1 percent higher and that in the soft red winter States was down 4 percent.

THE WHEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 13, 1950

SUMMARY

Wheat prospects again point to a crop that will be larger than domestic disappearance and exports, unless growing conditions from now on out are below average. In this event, prices will fall below the loan following harvest but should average close to it for the 1950-51 marketing year as a whole. Loan rate average may be slightly below 1949 when it was $1.95 on a national farm basis and from $2.20 for No. 2 Hard Winter at Kansas City.

Total disappearance of wheat in 1949-50 is now expected to be about 1,000 million bushels. Domestic use may total about 687 million, consisting of 491 million for civilian and military food, 81 million for seed and 115 million for feed. Exports July-March totaled about 237 million and shipments to Territories of the United States 3 million. If exports for April-June are at about the same rate as in the past 9 months, the total for the year would be about 310 million bushels. This would leave a carry-over on July 1, 1950 of about 450 million bushels compared with 307 million on July 1, 1949.

A winter wheat crop of 764 million bushels was indicated as of April 1. Production of spring wheat has not yet been estimated, but moisture conditions so far are generally good. However, if yields per seeded acre should equal the 1944-48 average on the acreage indicated by farmers' March intentions, about 300 million bushels would be produced. Assuming a production of 300 million bushels of spring wheat and 764 million bushels of winter wheat would give a total wheat crop of 1,064 million bushels. With a domestic use of near 700 million bushels, a crop of this size, together with a prospective carry-over of about 450 million bushels, would provide about 814 million bushels for exports in 1950-51 and for carry-over July 1, 1951.

If exports approximate 300 million bushels in 1950-51, about 500 million bushels would remain in the carry-over on July 1, 1951, which compares with the record high in 1942 of 631 million, and the prewar (1932-41) average of 235 million. Exports of 300 million bushels would be substantially below the record 500 million bushels exported in 1948-49, but still considerably above the 169 million-bushel long-time average.

A total of 72,750,000 acres of all wheat is reported seeded or to be seeded for 1950. This is 14 percent below seeding for the 1949 crop, but 10 percent above the 1939-48 average of 66,030,000 acres. It is a little below the national wheat allotment total, as revised upward by Public Law 272.

Prospects for winter grain in continental Europe are promising, with little winter damage reported. Total breadgrain acreage there is expected to show some increase over the 1949 area. In the Soviet Union weather conditions in the fall were not particularly favorable and some regions lacked adequate snow cover until late winter. Spring wheat seedings in Canada will begin soon, and will be influenced to a great extent by subsoil moisture conditions at seeding time. In late March a shortage of subsoil moisture was reported over much of the wheat belt.

THE OUTLOOK FOR WHEAT IN 1950-51

BACKGROUND- The 84.9 million acres seeded to wheat for the 1949 crop was the largest in the history of the United States. The previous peak was 80.8 million acres in 1937. A total acreage in 1950 indicated at 72.75 million acres is a reduction of 14 percent from seedings for the 1949 crop, but an increase of 23 percent from the 59.26 million-acre average for 1939-43 1/when exports were small and carry-over stocks accumulated. Yield per seeded acre of 14.6 bushels for 1950 is calculated on the basis of conditions of winter wheat as of April 1 and about average condition for the remainder of the year, and a spring wheat yield equal to the 1944-48 average. This yield of 14.6 bushels is above the 13.5 bushels obtained in 1949, but below the 16.3 bushels average in 1941-48, when yields were high. 2/ Tables 1-4 show acreage, and acreage, yield and production by types of wheat and regions for 1950 with comparisons.

An abnormal world demand for bread grains made it possible to move the excess over domestic needs from wheat crops produced in 1944-48, each in excess of one billion bushels. Large exports also held down the increase in the size of the carry-over on July 1, 1949 (Supply and distribution table in "The Wheat Situation of January-February 1950, page 18).

Supplies of wheat in the four principal exporting countries on January 1, 1944 were a record 2,206 million bushels. By January 1946 they were down to 1,397 million and in 1947 were 1,352 million. Greatly increased disappearance was caused by wartime depletion of food supplies in importing countries and by poor crops in many areas. Since 1947, supplies have increased and on January 1, 1950 they were 1,683 million bushels--7 percent above the 1945-49 average of 1,574 million, but 24 percent below the peak in 1944 (table 6).

1/ Until the spring of 1943 acreage was limited, under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, to an amount which would meet domestic and export needs and provide a carry-over which included a reserve for years of small yields. In February 1943 acreage and marketing restrictions were removed. Acreage allotments were resumed on the 1950 crop. 2/ High yields resulted not only as a result of favorable growing conditions but also from the increased use of more timely and improved production practives, such as stubble mulch in the Great Plains; chemical control of weeds, insects and disease; and increased use of fertilizer; also from the development and more widespread adoption of higher yielding varieties. Even the 13.5 bushel yield in 1949, when growing conditions were the poorest in 9 years, was above the 12.9 bushel average in 1923-32, which preceded the drought years

Another Large Crop in Prospect; Carry-over July 1, 1951 May Total About 500 Million Bushels

A winter wheat crop of 764 million bushels was indicated as of April 1. Production of spring wheat has not yet been estimated. 3/ However, if yields per seeded acre should equal the 1944-48 average by States on the acreage indicated by farmers' March intentions, about 300 million bushels would be produced. This would give a total wheat crop of 1,064 million bushels. With a domestic use of near 700 million bushels, a crop of this size, together with a prospective carry-over of about 450 million bushels, would provide about 814 million bushels for export in 1950-51 and for carry-over July 1, 1951. Exports of about 300 million bushels in 1950-51 would leave about 500 million bushels carry-voer on July 1, 1951, which compares with the record high of 631 million in 1942, and the prewar (1932-41) average of 235 million.

Exports of about 300 million bushels would be substantially below the record 500 million bushels in 1948-49, but would still be considerably above prewar. In the 35 years since 1909 (leaving out years of net imports), net exports averaged 169 million bushels. The size of exports in 1950-51 will depend upon the way the crops turn out in both exporting and importing countries. In addition to crop cutturns, the financial and political role played by the United States in international affairs will continue to be very important in determining the quantity of United States exports.

A carry-over of 500 million bushels would provide adequate insurance against adverse crop years or years of unusually high demands. However, the prospect of a carry-over of this size would result in a considerably smaller national acreage allotment for the 1951 crop.

Total Wheat Acreage Below the National Allotment; But still 10 Percent Above 10-year Average

A total of 72,750,000 acres of all wheat is reported seeded or to be seeded for 1950. This includes the prospective spring wheat acreage and last December's estimate of winter-wheat seeded. This estimate is 14 percent below the 84,930,000 acres seeded for the 1949 crop, 10 percent above the 1939-48 average of 66,030,000 acres, and the eighth largest in our history.

"FEED STATISTICS, INCLUDING WHEAT, RYE AND RICE"

U.S.D.A. Statistical Bulletin 85, (December 1949) is available for distribution. Copies may be obtained by writing to the Office of Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington 25, D. C. This edition includes many long-time series covering basic information on stocks, distribution, production, utilization, commercial movement, foreign trade, and prices of grains and feeds.

3/ The first indication for spring wheat will be issued on June 9.

The indicated acreage is a little below the national wheat allotment total. This allotment, as originally announced on July 14, was 68.9 million acres. 4/ Subsequently, additions were made possible by Public Law 272, signed by the President in August. 5/ The latter amounted to about 4.5 million acres, which if added to the originally announced figure would make a total of 73.4 million acres. The actual total of allotments, however, would be slightly less because part of the requirements under Public Law 272 were met by State and County reserves under regular allotments.

On March 1, growers reported that they planned to seed 19,730,000 acres of all spring wheat. This is 12.6 percent below the 22,560,000 acres planted in 1949 but 9 percent larger than the 1939-48 average of 18,070,000 acres. (The decrease in winter wheat acreage reported in December was 15 percent.) Acreages seeded by areas and percentage changes from 1949 are shown in table 2. The intended seedings of durum wheat of 3,260,000 acres are 12 percent less than the 3,690,000 acres last year but 24 percent more than the 1939-48 average of 2,620,000 acres. The durum wheat acreages in North Dakota and South Dakota are 12 percent and 14 percent, respectively, below 1949, while an increase of 5 percent is reported for Minnesota. The acreage of spring wheat other than durum in these States is expected to be well below last year. Decreases for other wheat are indicated at 12 percent for North Dakota, 18 percent for South Dakota, and 15 percent for Minnesota.

Moisture conditions in the spring wheat States are generally good.

Winter Wheat Prospects Decline
121 Million Bushels Since December 1

The current estimate of 764 million bushels is 121 million bushels less than forecast December 1. This is chiefly because of the continued dryness, aphid infestation and acreage abandonment in the southern Great Plains. As the crop emerges from dormancy, some thinning of stands is apparent in East North Central States, where alternate freezing and thawing occurred because of inadequate snow cover. In most areas outside the southern Great Plains, reductions in prospects and acreage losses are rather wide spread but relatively light, occurring largely in fields where frost heaving or standing water killed wheat plants. Soil moisture is mostly adequate for the present in central Great Plains areas, but spring rains will be needed to maintain continued development

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4/ Determination of the 1950 allotment of 68.9 million acres was explained in The Wheat Situation of July 1949, page 8. At the time of announcing acreage allotments, the Secretary of Agriculture proclaimed that there would be no wheat marketing quotas for the 1950-51 marketing year. Had marketing quotas been proclaimed this year it would have been the fourth time in the history of the legislation governing their use. Quotas were proclaimed in 1941, 1942, and 1943. The required referendum resulted in a favorable vote in 1941 and 1942. In 1943 the quota procedure was suspended because of the war emergency before the referendum was held.

5/ Provisions of Public Law 272 are set forth in The Wheat Situation of August 1949, page 5, footnote 2.

Wheat Loan in 1950 May Be Slightly Below 1949; Price for Marketing Year May Average Close to Loan

Unless growing conditions are below average for the remainder of the growing season, the wheat crop will again exceed domestic disappearance and exports, and prices for the 1950 crop will fall below the loan following harvest but should average close to it for the marketing year as a whole.

Price supporting loans on the 1950 wheat crop are provided at 90 percent of the mid-June parity. If the index of prices paid by farmers including interest and taxes is the same on June 15 (the period for determining wheat parity for the loan) as on March 15, the rate on the new crop at 90 percent of parity would be about $2.19 for No. 2 Hard Winter at Kansas City. The comparable rate for the 1949 crop was $2.20 per bushel. On a national farm basis, the comparable loan rate for the 1950 crop would be $1.93 compared with $1.95 6/ for the 1949 crop.

Crop Prospects in Northern Hemisphere Favorable

The present outlook for the 1950 breadgrain crop in the Northern Hemisphere is generally favorable. 7/ Prospects this early in the season are, of course, based largely on the area sown and condition of winter grains. The importance of winter wheat varies greatly in the different areas, amounting to about 95 percent of the total wheat crop in continental Europe, while averaging only about 5 percent of Canada's total. Winter wheat acreage in the Soviet Union is normally about 30-35 percent of the total acreage.

Prospects for winter grain in continental Europe are promising, with little winter damage reported. Total breadgrain acreage there is expected to show some increase over the 1949 area.

The Soviet Union announced that its fall seeding plan had been fulfilled. Details of the plan are not available, however, and no increase of winter wheat acreage was reported, as in other postwar years. Weather conditions were not particularly favorable in the fall, as it was too dry. Some regions lacked adequate snow cover until late winter. Soviet reports indicate that spring sowings are proceeding rapidly, and wheat acreage seeded by late March was larger than at that time a year ago.

Preliminary estimates for total wheat, now being harvested, in the Indian Union place the crop at about the same level as the 1949 harvest.

6/ Parity is determined by multiplying the base price of 88.4 cents per bushel (average 60 months from August 1909 to July 1914) by the index of prices paid, interest and taxes (1910-14=100) which in mid-June 1949 was 245 percent. The loan at 90 percent of the resulting $2.17 parity equalled $1.95 at the national farm level.

7/ From "Foreign Crops and Markets," April 17, 1950.

The outlook in Canada is still uncertain. The Minister of Agriculture suggests reduction of wheat acreage to about 24 million acres, 13 percent less than the near-record acreage in 1949. Seeding of the spring crop will soon begin, but farmers' intentions to plant are not released until May 11. Actual seedings will probably be influenced to a great extent by subsoil moisture conditions at seeding time. A shortage of subsoil moisture was reported over much of the wheat belt, in late March. The grasshopper threat was also considered rather serious.

Prospects are generally favorable in continental Europe. Soil moisture is reported abundant in France, and the outlook for the crop there is promising. Less fertilizer was used than last year, however, making good outturn more dependent on favorable growing conditions. Acreage seeded up to February 1 was about the same as the area up to that time a year ago. Some increase over last year's spring seedings is expected. Fall sown acreage of breadgrains in Belgium shows a good increase, all in wheat. The condition of the crop in February was reported good, though slightly below the condition a year earlier. Both wheat and rye acreage seeded last fall in the Netherlands was smaller than for the 1949 crop. The condition of the grain is generally very satisfactory with little winter kill reported.

Favorable weather in Italy, with satisfactory moisture conditions throughout the country during the winter make yield prospects promising. Acreage is expected to show little change from the 1949 area. Prospects for the 1950 crop in Spain were good, at last report, though not as promising as they were a month earlier. Sub-normal rainfall during February caused some deterioration, especially in southern areas, but prospects were still much better than at this time a year ago. The breadgrain acreage is slightly larger than in 1949 with most of the increase in wheat. Preliminary estimates indicate little change in acreage in Portugal. Fall grains germinated well, and the condition is promising over most of the grain area. Conditions in north Portugal, a minor wheat area, are less favorable than in the important central and southern areas.

Fall grain was seeded under favorable conditions in the United Kingdom, and the total sown was larger than the corresponding figure for 1949. Unofficial forecasts indicate that the total acreage may fall short of the 2,500,000 acre goal by about 250,000 acres. Winter wheat is reported in good condition. Wheat acreage in Ireland is expected to be about the same as in 1949. The winter was mild, and condition of winter grain is favorable.

In Swizterland, breadgrain acreage is about the same as in 1949 with a slight increase in wheat and a corresponding decline in rye. The condition was favorable at last report, in February. Crops wintered well in Denmark and little damage had been reported by early March. Acreage of fall-sown wheat was about the same as a year ago, but rye seedings showed a decline of about 20 percent from a year ago. Conditions were also

favorable in Sweden in late March. Moisture supplies were abundant, and the outlook favorable for a good crop. Breadgrain acreage is slightly larger than in 1949, increased wheat more than cancelling a decline in rye. Breadgrain acreage goals in Finland are slightly larger than the 1949 acreage. Small increases are set for both wheat and rye.

A slight increase over last year's area is reported for breadgrain acreage seeded in Western Germany. The increase in wheat more than balanced reductions in rye and winter mixed grains. The condition of winter grains is reported generally satisfactory and if good weather continues, another large crop is probable. Moisture conditions are reported satisfactory in Austria, and development of winter grains is reported good to satisfactory. In general, however, the condition is not up to that of a year ago. Acreage of winter grains shows some increase over the winter seedings a year ago.

One of the dark spots in an otherwise promising outlook is found in Czechoslovakia where the condition of the winter grains is described as definitely below normal. Dry weather in the fall gave the crop a poor start, and very cold weather in late January and early February is thought to have caused some damage, since there was little snow cover. Scant snowfall throughout the winter provided little ground moisutre, leaving the crop more dependent on spring rainfall than usual. Seedings of fall grain fell considerably short of the goal. This was especially true of wheat. Growers are expected to increase their acreage of spring-sown grains to make up for arrears in the winter seeded acreage and areas suffering heavy winter kill. Normally, the area of spring sown breadgrains is relatively small in Czechoslovakia, however, and it seems unlikely that the full goal for wheat acreage will be achieved. Plans called for a substantial increase in fall-sown grain in Poland, and growers were to be supplied with increased amounts of seed and fertilizer. No information is available, however, as to the present outlook in that country.

Greece is the only one of the Balkan countries for which acreage figures are available. The area there is reported larger than in 1949. Fall and winter conditions were exceptionally favorable to winter grains. In Bulgaria winter grain was described as in very good condition in late Janauay. No later report is available. Fall seeding in Hungary was accomplished on schedule, and rains following caused grain to germinate under favorable conditions. Good snow cover was reported and no winter kill was evident up to the end of February. Completion of the plan for fall seeding was reported in Rumania. Germination conditions, however, were said to be only fair. General indications pointed to fall sowings not coming up to expectations in Yugoslavia. Snowfalll was believed to be below normal here, but no winter kill was reported. Soil was becoming dry toward the end of March and rains were needed.

Seeding of small grains is just getting underway in the Southern Hemisphere. A prolonged drought in Argentina was relieved by rains in late February and early March. Preparation of land for sowing breadgrains can not proceed normally, and seeding began on schedule in April.

THE CURRENT WHEAT SITUATION

BACKGROUND.- In 1932-41, the supply of wheat in continental United States averaged 982 million bushels consisting of carry-in of old wheat, 235; production, 738, and imports for domestic use, 9. Total disappearance averaged 721, consisting of food, 475; feed, 122; seed, 81; and exports to foreign countries and shipments to U. S. Territories, 43. Carry-over stocks at the end of this period were much larger than at the beginning.

Net exports from the United States have exceeded 300 million bushels only in 1914-15, 1920-21, and in each of the past 4 years beginning in 1945-46 when they averaged almost 450 million bushels (table 3). Very small United States wheat crops in 1933-36 together with drives toward greater self-sufficiency in many importing countries greatly reduced exports in the 30's and the war curtailed shipping in the early 40's. In the 35 years since 1909, leaving out the years of net imports, net exports averaged 169 million bushels annually.

Wheat prices to growers advanced from an average of 67 cents per bushel in 1940-41 to a record of $2.81 in mid-January 1948, and a record season average of $2.29 for the 1947 crop. From 1938 to late 1944 the loan program, which reflected the general rise in prices farmers pay, was the most important factor in domestic wheat prices. From 1942 through 1945 wheat feeding was exceptionally heavy and very large quantities of wheat were used for war industrial purposes. Beginning in early 1945, export demand, including the various foreign aid programs, became the most important price factor.

In 1947-48, United States wheat prices reflected the unavailability of feed grains for export, the additional world demand resulting from short crops in importing countries, and the continued rise in the general price level. With the harvest of the near-record crop in 1948 and improved crops in importing countries, the loan program again became an important price factor. The price to growers for the 1948-49 crop averaged about 1 cent below the $2.00 loan level.

Carry-Over July 1, 1950 May Be About 450 Million Bushels

Total disappearance of wheat in 1949-50 is now expected to be about 1,000 million bushels. Domestic use may total about 687 million consisting of 491 million for civilian and military food, 81 for seed

and 115 for feed. July-March exports totaled about 237 million and shipments to Territories of the United States 3 million. If exports for April-June are about the same as the average rate of the past 9 months the total for the year would be about 310 million bushels. This would leave a carryover July 1, 1950 of about 450 million bushels, compared with 307 million July 1, 1949.

In July-February exports of wheat, flour and macaroni totaled about 212 million bushels, compared with 352 million for the same period a year earlier. Other grains totaled 148 million bushels this year compared with 106 million a year earlier. About 52 percent of the total of the grain and grain products went to Germany and the U. S. Pacific Area. About 34 percent went to the following ECA countries: Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg, Denmark, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Trieste, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. About 14 percent was shipped to India, Philippines, Spain, Cuba, Mexico, and other countries.

Of the total 212 million bushels of exports of wheat, flour and macaroni in July-February, 132 million are estimated to have been hard red winter, 42 million white, 22 million soft red winter, 15 million hard red spring, and 1 million durum.

Seasonal Downward Price Adjustment May Be Delayed By Short Crops in Texas and Oklahoma; CCC Sales Price Important Consideration

Wheat prices usually start to adjust to new crop conditions after the middle of May. The adjustment this year may be delayed because of the short crops in Texas and Oklahoma. The course of prices until new wheat moves in volume depends on several factors. One of these has to do with weather, especially in the dry areas of the winter wheat belt. Under continuing adverse weather conditions prices could advance to the level at which the CCC will sell. This selling price as announced for April was the applicable county loan rate for points of production plus 27 cents per bushel with appropriate adjustments for protein. Bids at country points in the Southwest already are within a few cents of this level. The offer by CCC of its large stocks will tend to establish a level above which the cash market is not likely to go. Rains in the dry areas, of course, would have a weakening price effect. The attitude of growers relative to liquidation of loan wheat is important especially until the last of April when loans are terminated.

Cash wheat prices in important terminals on April 12 were generally 7 to 9 cents above loan levels. Recent prices at this level or slightly above have not resulted in any market increase in the movement of wheat into market channels. At Kansas City, No. 2 Hard Winter at $2.30 was 10 cents above the loan. To equal accrued charges, prices would need to advance to about $2.38. On the other hand, No. 1 Hard Winter, track at

Gulf, recently reached $2.50, representing a margin of about 19 cents over the loan, which was enough to cover accrued charges on wheat in commercial storage. Much of the wheat under purchase agreement as well as farm-stored loan collateral probably has been redeemed, but release of some quantities of loan wheat from commercial storage, on which accrued charges are higher than on farm storage, will be necessary if minimum requirements against old crop supplies are to be met.

On the basis of a report of March 29, farmers had placed 379 million bushels of 1949-crop wheat under loan and purchase agreement. (Redemptions are not reported). While the 1949 crop was 168 million bushels smaller than the 1948 production, the quantity placed under the price supporting programs was slightly larger than the 368 million bushels from the 1948 crop. The total for the current year consisted of 257 million stored in warehouses, 76 million on farms, and 46 million under purchase agreement.

Wheat deliveries to CCC from the current programs together with quantities held from the previous crop and procured by market purchases will result in a large part of the carry-over next July being held by CCC.

Wheat Supplies for Export and Carry-over In Principal Exporting Countries above Year Earlier

Total supplies of wheat remaining for export and carry-over April 1, 1950 8/ in the 4 principal exporting countries (table 5) of about 921 million bushels, is 13 percent above the 817 million bushels a year earlier. While Apirl 1 supplies were 64 percent above the 1935-39 average of 561 million bushels they are only about half of the peak 1,762 million bushels reached on April 1, 1943.

Of the total supplies available for export and carry-over remaining on April 1, 1950, 527 million were in the United States, 185 million in Canada, 120 million in Australia and 89 million in Argentina. July-March exports from the United States, totaled 237 million, which is down 39 percent from those in the same period a year earlier. December-March exports from Australia totaled about 33 million, down about 8 percent. December-March exports from Argentina at about 36 million bushels were up 57 percent from the low level a year earlier. August-March exports from Canada at about 145 million bushels were up 8 percent compared with the same period a year earlier. Supplies remaining in Argentina and Australia are for export during the remainder of the year ending November 30, while those in the United States are for export through June 30 and in Canada through July 31.

8/ Partly estimated.

Table 1.- All wheat and all spring wheat: Acreage, yield, and production, United States, 1919-50

Year of harvest	All wheat			Spring wheat		
	Seeded acreage	Yield	Production	Seeded acreage	Yield	Production
	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels
Average 1929-33	67,298	11.8	792,153	22,550	9.2	208,958
1919	77,440	12.3	952,097	26,049	7.8	203,637
1920	69,997	12.4	843,277	22,472	10.2	230,050
1921	67,681	12.1	818,964	22,202	9.7	216,171
1922	67,163	12.6	846,649	19,748	13.9	275,190
1923	64,590	11.8	759,482	19,102	10.7	204,183
1924	55,706	15.1	841,617	17,068	15.7	268,054
1925	61,738	10.8	668,700	20,816	13.0	268,081
1926	60,712	13.7	832,213	20,108	10.0	200,606
1927	65,661	13.3	875,059	21,527	15.2	326,871
1928	71,152	12.9	914,373	22,721	14.8	335,307
1929	67,177	12.3	824,183	23,032	10.3	237,126
1930	67,559	13.1	886,522	22,311	11.3	252,713
1931	66,463	14.2	941,540	20,548	5.7	116,225
1932	66,281	11.4	756,307	22,653	11.7	264,796
1933	69,009	8.0	552,215	24,207	7.2	173,932
1934	64,064	8.2	526,052	19,228	4.5	87,369
1935	69,611	9.0	628,227	22,175	7.2	158,815
1936	73,970	8.5	629,880	23,984	4.4	106,277
1937	80,814	10.8	873,914	22,969	8.1	185,340
1938	78,981	11.6	919,913	22,517	10.4	234,735
1939	62,802	11.8	741,210	16,648	10.5	175,538
1940	61,820	13.2	814,646	18,284	12.1	221,837
1941	62,707	15.0	941,970	16,662	16.1	268,243
1942	53,000	18.3	969,381	14,145	18.9	267,222
1943	55,984	15.1	843,813	17,469	17.5	306,337
1944	66,190	16.0	1,060,111	19,369	15.9	308,210
1945	69,130	16.0	1,108,224	18,715	15.5	290,390
1946	71,536	16.1	1,153,046	19,341	14.6	282,321
1947	78,169	17.5	1,367,186	20,036	14.9	299,138
1948	78,924	16.6	1,313,534	20,053	15.2	305,671
1949	84,931	13.5	1,146,463	22,559	10.9	244,795
1950 1/	72,750	14.6	1,064,000	19,727	15.2	300,000

1/ Figures for acreage consist of the December 1949 winter estimate and the March 1950 spring prospective plantings; those for production consist of the April 1950 winter estimate and an assumption of yields for spring wheat equal to the 1944-48 average.

Table 2.- Spring Wheat: Seeded acreage by areas, average 1939-48, annual 1948-50

Area	Average 1939-48	1948	1949	1950 prospective plantings	1950 as percentage of 1949
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Spring wheat other than durum					
Mont., N.D., S.D., and Minn.	13,509	14,991	16,769	14,584	87.0
Wash., Oreg., and Idaho	1,350	1,295	1,463	1,383	94.5
Colo., Nebr., and Wyo.	380	282	402	285	70.9
All other States	211	240	232	215	92.7
Total	15,450	16,808	18,866	16,467	87.3
Durum wheat 1/	2,623	3,245	3,693	3,260	88.3
TOTAL, all spring	18,072	20,053	22,559	19,727	87.4

1/ Figures for durum represent three States only--Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Durum production in other States is unimportant and figures are included with "other spring" wheat.

Table 3.- Durum and other spring wheat: Seeded acreage, yield per acre, and production 1940-50 1/

Year	Durum 2/			Other spring		
	Acreage	Yield	Production	Acreage	Yield	Production
	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels
1940	3,371	9.6	32,294	14,913	12.7	189,543
1941	2,598	15.6	40,658	14,064	16.2	227,585
1942	2,155	19.1	41,236	11,990	18.8	225,986
1943	2,136	15.7	33,505	15,333	17.8	272,832
1944	2,099	14.1	29,666	17,270	16.1	278,544
1945	2,026	16.2	32,840	16,689	15.4	257,550
1946	2,493	14.4	35,836	16,848	14.6	246,485
1947	2,975	14.9	44,328	17,061	14.9	254,810
1948	3,245	13.8	44,680	16,808	15.5	260,991
1949	3,693	10.5	38,864	18,866	10.9	205,931
1950	3,260			16,467		

1/ Data for 1929-39 in The Wheat Situation, March-April 1943, page 11.
2/ Figures for durum represent three States only--Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Durum production in other States is unimportant and figures are included with "other spring."

Table 4.- Wheat Acreage seeded, by regions, United States, 1919-50

Year	Hard winter wheat region 1/	Spring wheat region 2/	Soft winter wheat region 3/	Pacific Northwest region 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
Average 1929-33	27,636	20,416	10,568	5,202
1919	24,727	21,706	20,660	4,774
1920	22,066	19,905	17,106	4,817
1921	23,830	20,526	15,481	4,288
1922	25,478	18,065	15,404	4,268
1923	23,910	17,533	15,439	3,974
1924	20,177	16,006	12,414	3,958
1925	22,893	18,295	11,945	5,436
1926	23,935	18,056	11,264	4,256
1927	26,537	19,487	11,681	4,612
1928	27,204	21,130	14,498	4,699
1929	27,234	20,687	10,623	5,186
1930	28,327	19,959	10,609	5,361
1931	28,434	19,116	10,787	4,662
1932	27,109	20,783	10,065	4,853
1933	27,078	21,535	10,755	5,946
1934	26,615	17,718	11,745	4,293
1935	28,145	20,605	12,608	4,365
1936	29,931	21,806	13,042	5,117
1937	34,933	20,086	15,733	5,349
1938	35,356	20,904	13,620	4,805
1939	28,028	15,929	11,392	3,941
1940	26,112	17,248	10,658	4,171
1941	27,508	16,762	10,736	4,129
1942	23,280	14,737	8,339	3,502
1943	23,525	17,083	8,238	4,205
1944	28,961	19,193	9,905	4,602
1945	31,863	18,616	10,353	4,793
1946	33,695	20,037	9,076	5,128
1947	37,274	20,648	10,436	5,314
1948	36,630	20,320	11,589	5,582
1949 5/	39,801	22,516	11,923	5,962
1950 6/	33,245	16,520	10,114	5,248

1/ Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Nebraska, and Colorado.
2/ North Dakota, Montana, South Dakota, and Minnesota.
3/ Ohio, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maryland, South Carolina, Georgia, and West Virginia.
4/ Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.
5/ Preliminary.
6/ December 1949 winter estimate and March 1950 spring prospective plantings.

Table 5.- Wheat including flour 1/: Supplies available for export or carry-over April 1, four principal exporting countries, 1949-50 with comparisons

Country and year	Year beginning	Supply: Carry-over	Supply: New crop	Supply: Total	Domestic uses	Remaining for export and carry-over	Exports to March 31 2/	Remaining for export and carry-over April 1 2/
		Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels
United States	July 1:							
1935-39		154	759	913	686	227	42	185
1942-43		631	969	1,600	948	652	20	632
1948-49		196	1,314	1,510	700	810	391	419
1949-50		307	1,147	1,454	690	764	237	527
Canada	Aug. 1:							
1935-39		101	312	413	117	296	129	167
1942-43		424	557	981	171	810	116	694
1948-49		78	386	464	129	335	134	201
1949-50		103	367	470	140	330	145	185
Argentina	Dec. 1:							
1935-39		50	222	272	103	169	50	119
1942-43		168	235	403	121	282	22	260
1948-49		75	190	265	147	118	23	95
1949-50		50	210	260	135	125	36	89
Australia	Dec. 1:							
1935-39		14	170	184	55	129	39	90
1942-43		104	156	260	69	191	15	176
1948-49		26	191	217	79	138	36	102
1949-50		19	217	236	83	153	33	120
Total (4)								
1935-39		319	1,463	1,782	961	821	260	561
1942-43		1,327	1,917	3,244	1,309	1,935	173	1,762
1948-49		375	2,081	2,456	1,055	1,401	584	817
1949-50		479	1,941	2,420	1,048	1,372	451	921

1/ Flour in terms of wheat. 2/ Exports partly estimated.

Table 6.- Wheat: Estimated January 1 supplies in principal exporting countries, 1944-50

Year	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total (4)
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.
1944	818	692	445	251	2,206
1945	828	592	330	112	1,862
1946	682	345	225	145	1,397
1947	642	340	240	130	1,352
1948	802	300	270	220	1,592
1949	868	345	250	205	1,668
1950	908	315	245	215	1,683

Table 7.- Wheat: Average closing prices of May wheat futures, specified markets and dates, 1949,1950

Period	Chicago 1949	Chicago 1950	Kansas City 1949	Kansas City 1950	Minneapolis 1949	Minneapolis 1950
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Month						
January	2.24	2.11	2.12	2.07	2.17	2.15
February	2.15	2.09	2.03	2.06	2.08	2.15
March	2.16	2.20	2.03	2.16	2.10	2.23
Week ended						
February 4	2.18	2.08	2.05	2.04	2.10	2.12
11	2.11	2.07	1.99	2.04	2.03	2.12
18	2.16	2.09	2.04	2.06	2.09	2.15
25	2.17	2.12	2.05	2.08	2.10	2.18
March 4	2.18	2.14	2.06	2.11	2.11	2.20
11	2.16	2.18	2.03	2.15	2.10	2.22
18	2.15	2.20	2.02	2.16	2.10	2.22
25	2.15	2.22	2.01	2.18	2.09	2.23
April 1	2.15	2.24	2.02	2.21	2.11	2.26
8	2.17	2.24	2.03	2.22	2.11	2.25

Table 8.- Wheat: Prices per bushel in three exporting countries, Friday nearest mid-month, Jan.-Mar., 1950, Weekly Feb.-Apr., 1950

Date (Friday)	HARD WHEAT: United States: No. 1 Dark Northern Spring 13 per cent protein at Duluth 1/	HARD WHEAT: Canada: No. 2 Manitoba at Fort William 2/	HARD WHEAT: United States: No. 1 Dark Winter Galveston 1/	SOFT WHEAT: United States No. 1 Portland 1/	SOFT WHEAT: Australia 1/ 3/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Friday mid-month					
January 13	2.27	1.92	2.38	2.18	2.12
February 17	2.28	1.92	2.42	2.215	2.12
March 17	2.32	1.99	2.46	2.24	
Weekly					
February 3	2.23	1.89	2.39	2.215	2.12
10	2.26	1.90	2.40	2.195	2.12
24	2.29	1.97	2.44	2.22	
March 3	2.31	1.97	2.445	2.225	
10	2.32	1.99	2.46	2.24	
24	2.31	2.03	2.48	2.24	
31	2.34	2.03	2.485	2.23	
April 6	2.35	2.03	2.485	2.24	

1/ F.O.B. spot to arrive.
2/ Fort William quotation is in store. Converted to U. S. currency.
3/ Sales to non-contract countries.

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Table 9. - Wheat: Weighted average cash price, specified markets and dates, 1949, 1950

Month and date	All classes and grades six markets		No. 2 Dark Hard and Hard Winter Kansas City		No. 1 Dark N. Spring Minneapolis		No. 2 Hard Amber Durum Minneapolis		No. 2 Red Winter St. Louis		No. 1 Soft Wheat Portland 1/	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Month												
Jan.	2.27	2.26	2.25	2.22	2.35	2.37	2.35	2.29	2.29	2.22	2.21	2.[illegible]
Feb.	2.25	2.25	2.20	2.22	2.34	2.33	2.33	2.27	2.29	2.16	2.17	2.[illegible]
Mar.	2.28	2.30	2.24	2.27	2.35	2.36	2.30	2.32	2.33	2.29	2.24	2.24
Week ended-												
Feb. 4	2.25	2.22	2.22	2.21	2.33	2.33	2.35	2.27	2.29	2.22	2.15	2.21
11	2.17	2.24	2.14	2.20	2.28	2.33	2.26	2.28	2.23	2.15	2.12	2.19
18	2.24	2.25	2.20	2.23	2.36	2.32	2.32	2.26	---	2.14	2.19	2.21
25	2.29	2.28	2.26	2.26	2.37	2.34	2.40	2.28	2.31	2.18	2.22	2.22
Mar. 4	2.30	2.28	2.27	2.25	2.37	2.35	2.39	2.30	---	---	2.26	2.23
11	2.29	2.29	2.25	2.26	2.36	2.37	2.32	2.33	2.38	2.25	2.25	2.24
18	2.27	2.31	2.23	2.28	2.36	2.36	2.27	2.32	---	2.26	2.23	2.25
25	2.27	2.30	2.23	2.28	2.34	2.35	2.28	2.31	2.28	2.30	2.22	2.24
Apr. 1	2.28	2.31	2.25	2.30	2.33	2.37	2.34	2.32	---	2.33	2.21	2.24
8	2.30	2.31	2.27	2.31	2.35	2.38	2.31	2.30	2.36	2.29	2.21	2.24

1/ Average of daily cash quotations.